

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1-8 were rejected, claims 16-20 were withdrawn, and claims 9-15 were allowed. By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 3-8 were rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,964,003 issued to Rogers (hereinafter “Rogers ‘003”). Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the apparatus in combination with a machine tool as the Examiner has suggested. Consequently, Applicants believe that the rejection of claim 1 has been overcome. Since claims 3-8 depend on claim 1, these claims are believed to be allowable for the same reasons.

Claims 1 and 5-8 were rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,852,923 issued to Hess (hereinafter “Hess ‘923”). Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the apparatus in combination with a machine tool as the Examiner has suggested. Consequently, Applicants believe that the rejection of claim 1 has been overcome. Since claims 3-8 depend on claim 1, these claims are believed to be allowable for the same reasons.

Claims 1-2, 4 and 6-7 were rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,168,660 issued to Smith (hereinafter “Smith ‘660”). Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the apparatus in combination with a machine tool as the Examiner has suggested. Consequently, Applicants believe that the rejection of claim 1 has been overcome. Since claims 2, 4, 6 and 7 depend on claim 1, these claims are believed to be allowable for the same reasons.

Claims 1 and 5-7 were rejected under § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lang Chip Removal Fans (hereinafter "Lang"). Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the apparatus in combination with a machine tool as the Examiner has suggested. Consequently, Applicants believe that the rejection of claim 1 has been overcome. Since claims 5-7 depend on claim 1, these claims are believed to be allowable for the same reasons.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to the Examiner's objections and rejections in advancing the prosecution of this case. Applicants believe all formal and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. A check in the amount of \$120.00 is enclosed to cover the Petition fee. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 02-3978.

Respectfully submitted,
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